

**§ 700.321 President, Board of Inspection and Survey.**

The President of the Board of Inspection and Survey, assisted by such other officers and such permanent and semipermanent sub-boards as may be designated by the Secretary of the Navy, shall:

(a) Conduct acceptance trials and inspections of all ships and service craft prior to acceptance for naval service.

(b) Conduct acceptance trials and inspections on one or more aircraft of each type or model prior to final acceptance for naval service.

(c) Examine at least once every three years, if practicable, each naval ship to determine its material condition and, if found unfit for continued service, report to higher authority.

(d) Perform such other inspections and trials of naval ships, service craft, and aircraft as may be directed by the Chief of Naval Operations.

**Subpart D—The Commandant of the Marine Corps****§ 700.401 Senior officer of the Marine Corps.**

(a) The Commandant of the Marine Corps is the senior officer of the United States Marine Corps.

(b) The Commandant of the Marine Corps is the Marine Corps member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and is responsible, in coordination with the Chief of Naval Operations, for keeping the Secretary of the Navy fully informed on matters considered or acted upon by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In this capacity, he is responsible, under the President and the Secretary of Defense, for duties external to the Department of the Navy, as prescribed by law.

[39 FR 7135, Feb. 25, 1974, as amended at 45 FR 80278, Dec. 4, 1980]

**§ 700.402 Succession to duties.**

The Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps, and then the officers of the Marine Corps, not restricted in the performance of duty, on duty at the headquarters of the Marine Corps in the order of their seniority, shall, unless otherwise directed by the President, perform the duties of the Commandant of the Marine Corps during

his absence, disability, or in the event of a temporary vacancy in that office.

**§ 700.403 Authority and responsibilities.**

(a) The Commandant of the Marine Corps, under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, shall command the United States Marine Corps, which shall include Headquarters, United States Marine Corps; the Operating Forces of the Marine Corps; Marine Corps Supporting Establishments and the Marine Corps Reserve.

(b) The Commandant of the Marine Corps advises the Secretary of the Navy on matters pertaining to the Marine Corps. He is directly responsible to the Secretary for the administration, discipline, internal organization, training, requirements, efficiency, and readiness of the Marine Corps; for the operation of the Marine Corps material support system; and the total performance of the Marine Corps. He shall command such shore activities as may be assigned by the Secretary, and is responsible to the Secretary for the utilization of resources by and the operating efficiency of all activities under his command. When performing these functions, the Commandant is not a part of the command structure of the Chief of Naval Operations. There must, however, be a close cooperative relationship between the Chief of Naval Operations, as the senior military officer of the Department of the Navy, and the Commandant, as the one having command responsibility over the Marine Corps.

(c) The Commandant of the Marine Corps is directly responsible to the Chief of Naval Operations for the organization, training, and readiness of those elements of the Operating Forces of the Marine Corps assigned to the Operating Forces of the Navy. Such Marine Corps forces, when so assigned, are subject to the command exercised by the Chief of Naval Operations over the Operating Forces of the Navy. Likewise, members or organizations of the Navy, when assigned to the Marine Corps, are subject to the command of the Commandant of the Marine Corps.